

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/004620

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F2/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F H04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2 735 015 A (MICROVAL) 13 December 1996 (1996-12-13)	1
Y	page 4, line 19 - page 7, line 10; figures -----	2-10,14
X	WO 00/15141 A (C.R. BARD, INC; PAJOTIN, PHILIPPE) 23 March 2000 (2000-03-23)	1
Y	page 3, line 23 - page 6, line 13; figures -----	2-10,14
X	WO 97/22310 A (RANGEL GONZALEZ, NEFTALI) 26 June 1997 (1997-06-26)	1
Y	the whole document -----	2-10,14
X	US 5 522 896 A (PRESCOTT ET AL) 4 June 1996 (1996-06-04)	1,5,7
	column 5, line 48 - column 6, line 47; figure 5a ----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the International filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

23/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Serra i Verdager, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern al Application No
PCT/GB2004/004620

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2002/052654 A1 (DAROIS ROGER E ET AL) 2 May 2002 (2002-05-02) the whole document -----	9,10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004620

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 11-13, 15-17
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Inten

al Application No

PCT/GB2004/004620

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2735015	A	13-12-1996	FR 2735015 A1	13-12-1996
			WO 9641588 A1	27-12-1996
WO 0015141	A	23-03-2000	FR 2783156 A1	17-03-2000
			AU 5821999 A	03-04-2000
			CA 2343381 A1	23-03-2000
			WO 0015141 A1	23-03-2000
			US 6740122 B1	25-05-2004
WO 9722310	A	26-06-1997	WO 9722310 A2	26-06-1997
US 5522896	A	04-06-1996	US 5728157 A	17-03-1998
			US 5578086 A	26-11-1996
			AU 5154390 A	05-09-1990
			WO 9009152 A1	23-08-1990
US 2002052654	A1	02-05-2002	US 6258124 B1	10-07-2001
			AU 2881400 A	21-11-2000
			CA 2373583 A1	16-11-2000
			EP 1189551 A1	27-03-2002
			JP 2004500148 T	08-01-2004
			MX PA01011580 A	04-06-2002
			WO 0067663 A1	16-11-2000